



Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
|-------|---|----|---|

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 10/695,250 |
| Filing Date | October 27, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Steven Snyder |
| Art Unit | 3673 |
| Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Attorney Docket Number | 12873.04639 |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

3/30/05

Signature [Signature]

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

⁷ The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
This document contains information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.


INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Complete if Known

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/280,927 |
| Filing Date | October 25, 2002 |
| First Named Inventor | Snyder et al. |
| Art Unit | 3673 |
| Examiner Name | F. C. Conley |
| Attorney Docket Number | 12873/04292 |

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
|-------|---|----|---|

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|---------|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered | 3/30/05 |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|---------|

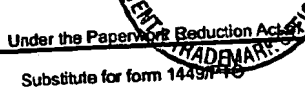
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in comprehensive search. If not, leave blank. If English language Translation is attached, considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
This document contains a valid OMB control number.

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 |
|-------|---|----|---|

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 10/695,250 |
| Filing Date | October 27, 2007 |
| First Named Inventor | Steven Snyder |
| Art Unit | 3673 |
| Examiner Name | F.C. Conley |
| Attorney Docket Number | 12873/04639 |

| Examiner Initials* | | Cite No.† | Document Number Number-Kind Code* (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|--|-----------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | | US- 6,230,344 | 5/15/2001 | Thompson, et al. | |
| | | | US- 6,000,077 | 12/14/1999 | Cyr | |
| | | | US- 5,964,347 | 10/12/1999 | Umess | |
| | | | US- 5,802,639 | 9/8/1998 | Raasch, et al. | |
| | | | US- 5,713,091 | 2/3/1998 | Huehlin | |
| | | | US- 5,685,036 | 11/11/1997 | Umess, et al. | |
| | | | US- 5,134,731 | 8/4/1992 | Quintile, et al. | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |
| | | | US- | | | |

duplicate
of IDS
filed 3/1/04

duplicate
of IDS
filed 3/1/04

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Date Considered

3/30/05

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Examiner Signature | <i>[Signature]</i> | Considered | <i>[initials]</i> |
| <p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes considered. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For USPTO. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁵Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁶Kind of document by Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁷Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁸Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.</p> | | | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 10/695,250 |
| Filing Date | October 27, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Snyder et al. |
| Art Unit | 3673 |
| Examiner Name | F. C. Conley |
| Attorney Docket Number | 12873/04639 |

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
|-------|---|----|---|

[illegible]

3/30/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. If not, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

USPTO Form 100 (Rev. 10-1999) and select option 2.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
|-------|---|----|---|

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/695,250 |
| Filing Date | October 27, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Steven Snyder et al. |
| Art Unit | 3673 |
| Examiner Name | Frederick C. Conley |
| Attorney Docket Number | 12873/04639 |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS


[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Examiner Signature | <i>[Signature]</i> | Date Considered | 3/30/65 |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------|

Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not
 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of
 Standard ST 3). 4 For

| | | | |
|--------------------|---|------------|---------|
| Examiner Signature |  | Considered | 3/30/03 |
|--------------------|---|------------|---------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not used. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

For more information on this form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/695,250 |
| Filing Date | October 27, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Steven Snyder et al. |
| Art Unit | 3673 |
| Examiner Name | not yet assigned |
| Attorney Docket Number | 12873/04639 |

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | US- 4,846,011 | 07/11/1989 | Gaffney | |
| | | US- 3,015,113 | 01/02/1962 | Wallen | |
| | | US- 3,105,246 | 10/01/1963 | Emrick | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |
| | | US- | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | GB 855930 | 12/14/1960 | Nesbit Evans | | |
| | | WO 2004/037043 A2 | 05/06/2004 | Invacare Corp. | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

3/30/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0651-0001.
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
This document contains a valid OMB control number.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. **Complete if Known**

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Application Number | 10/695,250 |
|--------------------|------------|

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Filing Date | October 27, 2003 |
|--------------------|------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| First Named Inventor | Steven Snyder |
|-----------------------------|---------------|

| | |
|----------|------|
| Art Unit | 3673 |
|----------|------|

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Examiner Name | not yet assigned |
|---------------|------------------|

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Attorney Docket Number | 12873/04639 |
|------------------------|-------------|

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
|-------|---|----|---|

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |

 T^2

International Search Report and Written Opinion for PCT/US2004/018735

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

3/30/05

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Examiner Signature | Considered |
|--------------------|------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is to be considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.